

Message Text

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44

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 AID-20 CIEP-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /115 W

----- 121778

R 030618Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5588

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ISLAMABAD 6362

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT,PK

SUBJ: MINISTER J.A. RAHIM FIRED

1. J.A. RAHIM, MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION, PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, HAS BEEN DISMISSED FROM BHUTTO'S CABINET, ACCORDING TO RADIO PAKISTAN ANNOUNCEMENT MORNING JULY 3. DISMISSAL APPARENTLY FOLLOWED MARATHON CABINET MEETING TAKING UP MUCH OF PREVIOUS DAY. REPORTING DISMISSAL, ASSOCIATED PRESS PAKISTAN STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN REMOVED "ON GROUNDS OF MISBEHAVIOR". NO DETAILS WERE GIVEN.

2. NO ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE REGARDING SUCCESSOR FOR RAHIM, BUT SPECULATION IS WIDESPREAD THAT PORTFOLIO WILL GO TO SENATOR RAFI RAZA, FORMER SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO PRIMIN BHUTTO. QUERIED ABOUT RAZA'S RUMORED APPOINTMENT, OFFICIALS IN RAHIM'S FORMER MINISTRY TOLD EMBASSY LOCAL THAT IT WAS "NOT OFFICIAL YET".

3. ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING RAHIM'S DISMISSAL DID NOT
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INDICATE WHETHER HE WAS ALSO BEING REMOVED FROM HIS

OTHER POSITION AS SECRETARY GENERAL OF PEOPLE'S PARTY,
BUT LATTER APPEARS LIKELY IF HE HAS INDEED BEEN DISMISSED
FOR "MISBEHAVIOR".

4. COMMENT: RAHIM IS ONE OF FOUNDING MEMBERS OF PEOPLE'S
PARTY AND LONG-TIME ASSOCIATE OF BHUTTO. ABLE, INDEPENDENTLY
WEALTHY AND INCORRUPTIBLE, HE ALSO HAS REPUTATION FOR
ARROGANCE AND IRASCIBILITY. DOGMATIC AND SOCIALIST ORIENTED,
RAHIM HAS BEEN AN OUTSPOKEN CRITIC OF PRIVATE INDUSTRY HERE.
RAFI RAZA WOULD BE SHARP CONTRAST. HE IS WELL KNOWN TO
EMBASSY AS HIGHLY INTELLIGENT, AFFABLE, SOPHISTICATED AND
PRAGMATIC INDIVIDUAL.

5. HARD TO TELL WHETHER THIS MARKS BEGINNING OF BHUTTO'S
OFTEN-PROMISED AND LONG-DELAYED CABINET RESHUFFLE. THERE
ARE RUMORS OF FURTHER CHANGES IN THE OFFING, BUT MANNER
IN WHICH RAHIM DISMISSED SUGGESTS THIS IS PROBABLY SPECIAL
CASE. GOOD CHANCE THAT FURTHER CABINET CHANGES WILL BE
WITHHELD UNTIL AFTER BHUTTO'S RETURN FROM MOSCOW.
BYROADE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CABINET, POLITICAL SITUATION, REMOVAL FROM OFFICE, PERSONNEL SEPARATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: shawdg
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Review Markings:

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TAGS: PINT, PK, (RAHIM, J A)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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